Construction of Raniganj-Mejia Railway Line

994. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved construction of railway line from Raniganj to Mejia on Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) at what stage the project stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Renovation of Angkor Vat Temple

995. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India has taken up renovation of the Angkor Vat Temple in Cambodia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely date by which the renovation work will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The massive structural complex which was damaged at various points due to different reasons including neglect and vagaries of nature was taken up for archaeological conservation and preservation from 1986 onwards under a bilatral agreement between Governments of Combodia and India.

A number of items including the famous Samudremanthan Gallery, parts of towers, porticos, pavilions, galleries, library buildings, esplanade and steps of the moat have been subjected to archaeological conservation and preservation. The work is presently in progress.

(c) As conservation and preservation of Angkor Vat Temple complex is a time consuming process it is likely to be completed within next two years.

Vocational Education in Navodaya Vidyalayas

996. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether vocational education has been made compulsory in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, whether these Vidyalayas are well equipped technically to impart such education;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to equip these Vidyalayas for imparting vocational education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. However, vocational courses have been started in 16 Navodaya Vidyalayas at "plus two" level from the current academic year.

(b) to (d). Since, it is the first year of introduction of the vocational courses, efforts are being made to provide vocational equipment needed for teaching the vocational subjects.

Safeguarding Interest of Tribals in Andaman & Nicobar Islands

997. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forests belonging to the tribals have been categorised for some other purposes without the consent of the tribals people in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No forests in the Union Territory of the Andamans and Nicobar Islands are reported to be under the ownership of the tribals as such;

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Illegal Killing of Animals

998. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that illegal killing of animals is being carried out in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Reports of poaching of wild animals are received by the Central Government from time to time.

(b) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Scholarship to Students from Lakshadweep

999. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students from Lakshadweep studying at Delhi and other places have not been paid scholarship for the year 1989-90 and 1990-91 till now;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to release their scholarship and other allowances on time in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). According to the information received from Lakshadweep Administration no payment of scholarships to eligible students from Lakshadweep studying at Delhi and other places is pending for the year 1989-90 and 1990-91. Scholarships are sanctioned by Lakshadweep Administration on receipt of applications with Nativity Certificate and Progress Report etc. Delay in payment of Scholarship occurs when applications are not received or incomplete applications are received without Nativity Certificate, Progress Report etc.